

REMARKS

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claim 25 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Minta et al. ("Minta") (U.S. Patent No. 6,539,747). Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 25 has been cancelled and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

Claims 25-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jackson et al. ("Jackson") (U.S. Patent No. 3,312,073). Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 25-29 have been cancelled and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for stating that Claims 30-48 contain allowable subject matter. Applicants have amended Claims 30-48 to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Applicants further respectfully request entry and consideration of the above amendments and remarks, and for the allowance of the pending claims 30-48.

Respectfully submitted,

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